

**INFERIORITY FEELING OF OLIVER TWIST IN ROMAN
POLANSKI'S *OLIVER TWIST* MOVIE:
AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH**



RESEARCH PAPER

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Every individual has problems in his life. The problem that appears is complex. Most of them related to human psychological condition. One of the basic problems of individual is feeling of inferiority. This emerges as the result of psychological and social weaknesses. Inferiority feeling also arises for imperfection in doing something. Those feelings include subjective feeling, which is experienced by people because of their social disabilities.

Thus, human beings try to compensate for their inferiority feeling by striving to overcome their feeling. Inferiority feeling influences human beings' life-style. In other words, inferiority determines life-style involving how people attempt to defeat their weakness. Commonly, individual applies their inferiority in social life. However, they tend to be motivated to overcome feeling of inferiority by building relationship with others to get their life's goal.

Sometimes, the goal of life will become difficult thing to be reached since there are many problems in human life. The problems in human life cannot be separated from thinking, feeling, and acting. Those are actually bringing up influence for the literary work. Literary works is as an expression of the author's feeling and emotion because literature arises from an author who lives as human being. Therefore, literature closely related to

psychology in understanding human being including experiences facing the life.

There are many literary works, which rise psychological aspect such as *Oliver Twist* movie. *Oliver Twist* is one of Roman Polanski's films that illustrate of worse experience on children, particularly on their psychological sphere. It tends showing effect on Oliver's psychology, how Oliver is able to face feelings of personal inferiority in social life. Roman Polanski is a director who reflects condition children in the social life, which may be dangerous for them. In other word, there is a feeling that social life in addition the world is a dangerous place for children's psychology.

Roman Polanski was born on August 18, 1933 in Paris, France. He was orphaned at the age of 8 when his parents were sent to a concentration camp during World War II. He comes from poor native Poland's family. He grew up in wartime Europe and was sent to the Jewish ghetto in Krakow. He lived in poor and uncertain condition where is insecure for him. This condition reflects his works as director of film such as *Oliver Twist*, a film is risen from Charles Dickens' classical novel. *Oliver Twist* is a movie which is happy and kindness ending. Polanski not only directs *Oliver Twist* but also a lot of films. The other films directed by Polanski are *Knife in the Water* published in 1962, a film which gets Oscar-nominated. Then Polanski moved to England, where he directed his English-language film, *Repulsion* in 1965. He further wrote and directed his successful film *Rosemary's Baby*

in 1968 and *Chinatown* in 1974. Next, he directed *Death and Maiden* in 1994 and the top prize for *The Pianist* published in 2002 (Brenan, 2010). Later, the director realized a long held ambition Dickens' classic novel *Oliver Twist*, which is analyzed in this research.

Oliver Twist movie was published in France. This movie tells about an orphan in 19 century Britain, who can escape from his downfall, pain, and poor. He brought up in workhouse where such boys were retained. He was beaten and abused the workhouse. He was beaten and abused the workhouse. Finally, he can lead to his escape from the awful place. Oliver runs away and travels seventy miles to London on foot. There, he meets Artful Dodger who offers him food and lodging with Fagin, a master thief who trains young boys to be pickpockets. Oliver comes beneath the refuge of Mr. Brownlow, where is kidnapped again by Sikes, one of the criminals of Fagin's gang (Hakeem, 2005).

Next, Nancy who feels sympathize to Oliver tries to help him, but Sikes stab her to death and Sikes is killed when he accidentally hangs himself while fleeing across a rooftop from an angry crowded people. This happening influences Oliver's psychology as a child in immature. He is as young children faced feeling helplessness. "The child makes comparison with other children and the demands of the social world" (Adler in Cloninger, 2009: 101). Social life and environmental demand can emerge a sense of inferiority that may be avoided by children, additionally; they are small and limited in their knowledge about the world. In this story, Oliver

can lead to his escape from the awful place since there is a kind man who helps him. *Oliver Twist* ends on a happy note.

Oliver Twist movie is made based on the 1838 novel of the same title by Charles Dickens. *Oliver Twist* involves a 2005 British drama film which setting of place in London and setting of time in 1830s. The period is the poor condition in England. The film released in the United States on September 30, 2005, duration is 2 hours 10 minutes, and distributed by Sony Tristar. This film spends \$ 60 million and become an Academy Awards winning movie. The appreciation is *Oliver Twist's* success that cannot be separated from the best cast and crews. The cast presents actors such as Barney Clark as Oliver Twist, Ben Kingsley as Fagin, and Jamie Foreman as Bill Sikes. Besides that, the best crews who make the film to become a great film such as Roman Polanski as director, Pawel Edelman as director of photography, Allan Starski as production designer, Ronald Harwood as the screenplay, Herve De Luze as editor, Celestia Fox as production designer casting, producer are Robert Benmussa, Alain Sarde, and Roman Polanski, costume designer is Anna Sheppard, make up is Didier Lavergne, and music is Rachel Portman.

The film involved 90 days of photography that was designed by Allan Starski and built at Barrandov studios in Prague. There were more than 85 buildings, 5 streets, and a little stretch of river. Beside *Oliver Twist's* success, *Oliver Twist* is also criticized by public for portraying thieves and prostitutes at all. Much argued, the film can influence the psychological

condition of people even children in their development because Oliver emerges to Victorian viewers' sentiments. So, the story of film also gives impact for a better change of people's point of view.

Oliver Twist is an interesting movie to be discussed; there are four aspects that make this film interesting. The first is Oliver takes up the strong emotional through an innocent character, Oliver who faced with the sinful environment. Each character is described in the most details and they are extremely colorful. Director develops into the characters to be easy known and understood through the performance of actors. The characters of course supported by cast that present their best performance. Barney Clark who plays as Oliver Twist is a good child actor. Director, Polanski makes Barney to become the friendliness and innocence of the character. He shows Oliver's performance naturally as an orphan boy in early 1800s England. There is also Leanne Rowe as Nancy who absolutely steals the show. She is wonderful actress who comes out as Oliver's guardian angel also naturally. The accepted character of Nancy appeared based on her empathy toward children. This is interesting because character Nancy doesn't emerge suddenly as unfamiliar character. Polanski takes the rescuer character from the nearest one of Oliver. So, the characters as if really become the real character in the actors' life.

The second aspect is the nuance and the reflection of the movie. The film portrayed poverty, pain, crime, joy, and orphan in London. This nuance used to criticize public policy toward the poor in 1830s England.

Director uses character and situation to challenge the Victorian idea that poverty and criminals are still liberated. The nuance in the film also can persuade the audience heart strings with his version of the eternal childhood story of the orphan. One cannot run away comparison of Polanski's life with that of *Oliver Twist*. Polanski was an orphan, he grew up without parents at exactly the same age as Oliver, and Polanski also lived in the country, going from family to family and place to place. So, there is some of that feeling that he can sympathize with. This life's experience reflected on his an adaptation film that he masters overall details in the film. Thus, the result of film can appear a great story with colorful characters, good natured and rich environment without leaving an original narration.

The third aspect is an interesting visualization of the movie. Director makes the film to be bigger than life. This applied to sets, costumes, make up, lighting, lenses, and everything. The lighting on the street, indoor, and costume make everything together to form a perfect entrance through which is seen in the world of *Oliver Twist*. Director also gives touch of visual perfection using cinematography to convey the story and showing the world from a child's point of view. Much of *Oliver Twist* takes place at night and in softly interiors. The night gives an impression that London includes fog, smoke, clouds and wet rain, while the interiors look simple, but they are quite complicated. Polanski can show the image a unique richness in each property and setting of place such as a busy London

street. Those are the appropriate combination to result a fantastic film taken in line with an old world England.

The last is the psychological condition reflected in *Oliver Twist*. There is a social problem that affects the psychological condition of Children, especially Oliver. In *Oliver Twist*, there is an image of psychological danger, which appears because of social demand. Poverty, crime, suffering, and also orphan are problems portrayed in this film. Those problems produce weak feeling in the children's personality in facing social life. This movie also presents the issue of parents' influence on children's development, particularly major character (Oliver Twist). Oliver was born as an orphan who is poor. It may develop feelings of psychological inferiority. On the other hand, these lacking condition affect his ability to get affection and esteem from others. It can be known *Oliver Twist* Movie has closely related to psychological aspect reflected in each character.

Based on the story of the film, the writer is interested in doing the research on the problem of Oliver Twist by using Individual Psychological Approach focusing on the inferiority feeling of Oliver Twist influencing his personality. The writer conducts a research entitled: **INFERIORITY FEELING OF OLIVER TWIST IN ROMAN POLANSKI'S *OLIVER TWIST* MOVIE: AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL APPROACH.**

B. Literature Review

As far as the writer knows, there are two researchers who analyze *Oliver Twist* movie. The first research was conducted by Andhika (UMS, 2009) entitled “Anxiety of Oliver Twist in Charles Dickens’s *The Adventures of Oliver Twist*: A Psychoanalytic Approach”. From the result of data analysis, he found anxiety of Oliver Twist influences his id to do something under his unconscious. He also concludes that as the work of Ego, Oliver Twist fulfills the id demand. Nevertheless, his superego can differentiate what is true and false.

The second research was Noviana (UMS, 2008) entitled “Struggle for Life Reflected in Charles Dickens’ *Oliver Twist*: An Individual Psychological Approach”. She found that the struggle for life of Oliver Twist comes from his fictional finalism and is supported by his inferiority feeling. It makes him strive to reach the superiority and power in emerging the struggle for life but his strive to superiority goes in the wrong way.

This research will be different from literature review since the writer analyzes the feeling of inferiority influencing the major character (Oliver Twist). This research is entitled “Inferiority Feeling of Oliver Twist in Roman Polanski’s *Oliver Twist* Movie: An Individual Psychological Approach”.

C. Problem Statement

The problem statement of this study is “How is inferiority feeling of Oliver Twist is reflected in Roman Polanski’s *Oliver Twist*?”

D. Limitation of the Study

In this research, the writer will limit the study on the analysis of the inferiority feeling that influence the personality of Oliver Twist in Roman Polanski’s *Oliver Twist* viewed by Individual psychological Approach.

E. Objective of the Study

The objectives of the study are as follows:

1. To analyze the movie based on its structural elements of the movie.
2. To analyze the main character’s personality based on the individual psychological approach.

F. Benefit of the Study

The benefits expected from the study are as follows:

1. Theoretical Benefit

The result of this research will give contribution to the world of literature, beside development; especially in the study of “Roman Polanski’s *Oliver Twist*”.

2. Practical Benefit

This study is expected to give deeper understanding about the movie especially in individual psychological approach.

G. Research Method

1. Type of the Study

The research of this study is qualitative research, which takes the sources data from words and other written text.

2. Object of the Study

The object of the study is *Oliver Twist* Movie directed by Roman Polanski. It is analyzed by using individual psychological approach.

3. Types of the Data and the Data Source

- a. Primary Data Source of the study is the movie itself: *Oliver Twist* movie by Roman Polanski.
- b. Secondary Data Source is taken from other sources such as internet, article, book, author's biography, essay, comments, criticism, and other relevant information.

4. Technique of the Data Collection

The data collecting technique used in the study are as follows:

- a. Watching the movie for the several times.
- b. Reading the script of movie.
- c. Determining the character that will be analyzed.

- d. Taking notes of important parts in both primary and secondary sources.
- e. Classifying and determining the relevant data.
- f. Taking notes from the material and some other resources related to the movie and the analysis.

5. Technique of the Data Analysis

The technique used in analyzing the data is descriptive analysis. It involves with the structural elements of the movie and individual psychological approach.

H. Research Paper Organization

In order to make the research is easier to follow; the research paper is organized into five chapters. Chapter I is Introduction covering background of the study, literary review, problem statement, limitation of the study, objectives of the study, benefit of the study, research method, and the research paper organization. Chapter II presents Underlying Theory. It deals with notion of individual psychology, basic assumption of individual psychology, structural elements of the movie, and theoretical application. Then, Chapter III is Structural Analysis of *Oliver Twist* movie; (1) The structural Elements of *Oliver Twist* movie; It consists of structural elements of *Oliver Twist* movie including character and characterization, setting, plot, point of view, style, theme, and technical elements of the movie; (2) Discussion. Chapter IV presents Individual Psychological Analysis of

Oliver Twist movie, which deals with the analysis of the problems' movie that is related with the theory. There is also discussion in this chapter. Chapter V includes Conclusion and Suggestion.